

*Morning Sermon April 18, 2021*  
*“A Book Full of Blessings” – Revelation 1:1-3*  
*(Reasoning for Revelation)*

*I. Knowing Jesus –*

**1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ... Revelation 1:1 A**

1. *The revelation - ἀποκάλυψις – apokalupsis, means an unveiling, a revealing of things which were not seen or clearly seen:*

A. *About Jesus Christ– the entire Bible is about Jesus, and is His Word, yet revelation shows us, His servants more.*

B. *From Jesus Christ, this is God’s Word, from our risen and ascendent LORD!*

2. *There is a sense He will soon be seen by all the world, but the world’s vision of Jesus will be a sad one –*

<sup>7</sup> **Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen. Revelation 1:7 (NKJV)**

3. *Our vision and knowledge of Christ, from this book is a blessing, because we know Him as the Lamb –*

<sup>8</sup> **Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.**

<sup>9</sup> **And they sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, Revelation 5:8–9 (NKJV)**

A. *We have been studying Exodus. What a blessing it was for the Israelites to be instructed about the blood of the lamb – see also Exodus 12:5-6 A perfect lamb, without blemish is killed-*

<sup>7</sup> **And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. Exodus 12:7 (NKJV)**

<sup>12</sup> **‘For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against**

**all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD. <sup>13</sup> Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. Exodus 12:12–13 (NKJV)**

*B. We have the same blessing, but even better, with our Lord Jesus Christ –*

<sup>5</sup> **and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, Revelation 1:5 (NKJV)**

*II. Knowing what will happen -*

**which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. Revelation 1:1 B**

1. *The judgment of this world – Revelation 1:7*

2. *The setting up of God & Christ’s eternal Kingdom –*

<sup>7</sup> **Of the increase of His government and peace *There will be no end*, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this. Isaiah 9:7 (NKJV)**

*III. It is important to know how and to whom these things are communicated -*

1. *From God the Father to God the Son, Our Mediator, Jesus Christ -*

**Revelation of Jesus Christ which God gave Him – Revelation 1:1**

<sup>5</sup> **For *there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus*, 1 Timothy 2:5 (NKJV)**

2. *From Jesus it is sent and signified, by His angel, to John - And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John, Revelation 1:1 C (NKJV)*

A. *Signified it – meaning truth in this book is communicated through symbolism, for instance Jesus is called “The Lamb” this does not mean He turns into a literal Lamb, but rather His death was a sacrifice for our sins! I have no desire to be a literal pillar, concrete, gold or otherwise, in a literal new temple, but the temple is God’s people, and so are its pillars, as the pillar helps*

hold the structure up, a godly person is an encouragement, a strength, an upholder of others, a fixture in a spiritual temple -  
<sup>12</sup> He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. .... Revelation 3:12 A (NKJV)

B. The symbolism in the Book of Revelation is important, because:  
(1) in some cases, we are enabled to see into an invisible spiritual realm (2) in other cases we are enabled to see broad pictures of future events from this spiritual and moral perspective. Bottom line, the symbolism communicates beyond what a literal description or even prophecy could.

C. John bore witness –  
<sup>2</sup> who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw. Revelation 1:2 (NKJV)

The Greek word for witness is μαρτυρία *marturia*, from which we get our English word martyr. A martyr usually died for his witness, and so the word witness became associated more with death for faith than with its original meaning.

D. We who are servants not only pastors and / or elders or deacons, but all of God's true people –  
which God gave Him to show His servants – Revelation 1:1

#### IV. Knowing the blessing connected to the reading and hearing of this book –

<sup>3</sup> Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near. Revelation 1:3 (NKJV)

1. Blessings are opposite of curses, and the Book of Revelation speaks of the reversal or removal of the curse –

<sup>4</sup> And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.” Revelation 21:4

<sup>3</sup> And there shall be no more curse, ... Revelation 22:3

2. The blessing of the Book of Revelation is the Blessing of knowledge –

A. The BLESSING of the Knowledge of God and Christ –

<sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. John 17:3 (NKJV)

• This is the best kind of knowledge –

<sup>23</sup> Thus says the LORD: “Let not the wise *man* glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty *man* glory in his might, Nor let the rich *man* glory in his riches; <sup>24</sup> But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I *am* the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight,” says the LORD. Jeremiah 9:23–24 (NKJV)

• Ignoring or neglecting the knowledge of God brings calamity and judgment, never blessing -

<sup>28</sup> And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; Romans 1:28 (NKJV)

B. The Blessing of the Knowledge of the future –  
... to show His servants—things which must shortly take place.  
Revelation 1:1 B

• It is important to know the future because many people will be deceived, and already are -

<sup>7</sup> For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains *will do so* until He is taken out of the way. <sup>8</sup> And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. <sup>9</sup> The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, <sup>10</sup> and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. <sup>11</sup> And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, <sup>12</sup> that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. 2 Thessalonians 2:7–12 (NKJV)

• Seek blessings vs curses, now, for the time is near – “shortly” –  
Revelation 1:1 “for the time is near.” Revelation 1:3

<sup>15</sup> See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, <sup>16</sup> redeeming the time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Ephesians 5:15–17 (NKJV)

*Arnold Brewick*